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## PART II.

### OFFICIAL PAPERS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE.

**Food Situation for the week ending 14th February 1920.**

*Brief abstract of the special reports regarding the Food Situation for the week ending 14th February 1920.*

*Bangalore City.*—During the week under report, 251 carts of ragi and 35 carts of paddy came into the bazaar as against 95 carts of ragi and 54 carts of paddy in the previous week.

The price of ragi ranged from Rs. 78 to Rs. 106 per cart during the week against Rs. 80 to Rs. 106 per cart in the previous week.

There is sufficient stock of rice and ragi in the bazaar for consumers to buy.

The Municipal Depot is selling to the poor Delta rice and broken rice at 4½ seers and 6½ seers a rupee respectively.

*Mysore City.*—No change in the situation.

*Bangalore District.*—Except 13 cents at Kankanhalli, there was no rain anywhere else in the district.

It is reported that, as in the previous week, the standing crops (paddy and sugar-cane etc.,) are in pretty good condition.

The transplanting of Vysakhi paddy and the threshing of ragi are in progress.

No change for the better either in the matter of supply of food grains to markets, or in prices.

Ragi was sold at 6 to 8 and rice 3 to 4 seers per rupee. The early supply of the long expected Burma rice may ease the situation to a great extent.

*Mysore District.*—There is no change in the situation. Threshing operations are going on. Prices still remain high.

*Tumkur District.*—The markets are well supplied. Price of ragi which was Rs. 96 in the previous week has gone down to Rs. 87 per cart load of 640 seers, while that of paddy also shows a decline from Rs. 80 to Rs. 76.

Sale of Burma rice is being continued in the Depots at Tumkur, Gubbi, Tiptur, Turuvekere and Maddagiri and an indent for the supply of 440 pallas of Burma rice to the District Depot has been sent to the Food Controller.

*Kolar District.*—Though new local rice is gradually coming to the market yet it is somehow still very slow and the prices are still ruling high. A good supply of Burma rice seems to be the only means of keeping down the prices and the demand for this is ever on the increase. The price of ragi continues to be the same if it is not higher.

*Hassan District.*—The *santhes* were well supplied with food grains. Ragi is not so freely coming into the markets as rice. It is reported that paddy and rice are being exported from important santhes in the district to Bangalore and other places in the State.

Standing crops such as *Kar* paddy and sugar-cane are in a good condition.

Prices are still high.

The prospects of the season are generally good for the present.

*Shimoga District.*—There has not been any material change in the food situation of the district. Although there is generally a good supply of food grains, it has not yet succeeded in easing the prices. Rice is selling cheapest in Nagar, *i. e.*, at 6 seers a rupee; at 5 to 5½ in the rest of the District, while in Channagiri and Honnali it is selling at 4 to 4¾ seers.

In the taluks near the Dharwar and Chitaldrug Districts, rice is selling dear. Jolam and ragi are selling at slightly cheaper rates than before. The situation as regards chillies and jaggory deserves mention since the rates have gone up to Rs. 7 and Rs. 5 a maund respectively. Reimposition of restrictions, especially as regards the former seems desirable.

In the course of last week, large quantities of grain (paddy) have been exported from the Shimoga Town presumably to Bangalore and to Mysore. The Food Controller has been informed of the matter as well as the Deputy Commissioners of Bangalore and Mysore.

*Kadur District.*—Paddy is being still harvested in Narasimharajapura and its yield is 12 annas. The supply of food grains was quite sufficient in all the markets and shandies. Ragi was sold at 8 seers in Chikmagalur and at 9 seers in Kadur against 7 and 8 seers in the previous week. There has not been any perceptible change in the price of rice in any of the taluks.

The Amildar of Kadur reports that a large quantity of rice was transported to Bangalore and other places at the Kadur Railway Station with the result that the price for local rice rose slightly.

The prospects continue to be favourable.

*Chitaldrug District.*—The food situation remains the same as in the last week, the prices of food grains also remaining unchanged.

*General (By Food Controller).*—Except in Kankanhalli Taluk, where 13 cents of rain have been gauged there has been no rain anywhere else in the whole State. The Deputy Commissioners of Hassan and Shimoga state that large quantities of paddy are being exported from important centres in their districts presumably to Bangalore and Mysore. The Deputy Commissioners of these districts and of Kolar have been requested to watch the destinations of these grains and take necessary steps to see that this is not allowed to be surreptitiously exported.

The general supply of food grains in the several markets is reported to be good, but the prices have not shown a tendency towards decline. The Districts of Kolar, Bangalore and Tumkur have indented for Burma rice and arrangements are being made for its supply out of the January allotment, which is on its way from Madras The price of ragi both in Tumkur and Bangalore City has been going down, while that of paddy has continued steady. Tuvar dhal is becoming a rare commodity, the reason being that crop this year has been an utter failure in parts of India which were growing this grain in very large quantities. It may however be noted that this commodity is not controlled anywhere in India.

Arrangements have been made for the import of delta rice (February allotment) by merchants who have agreed to sell ordinary delta rice at not less than 4½ seers a rupee and Kusuma rice (superior quality) at 4⅛ seers a rupee. The sales of delta rice and Bengal rice continue to be conducted in the several places referred to in the last week's report.

The food situation in general throughout the State remains almost the same as in the last week.

C. S. BALASUNDARAM IYER,
*Chief Secretary to Government.*